BLONDE PHANTOM

C.D.L.

COMICS

CAN.ED.
NO.
18

PUT DOWN THAT GUN, JOAN! IT-IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!

SO! I'VE CAUGHT HIM AT LAST! AND I THINK *YOU'RE* THE WOMAN! WELL, IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE NOW--YOU'LL PAY FOR STEALING MY MAN!

THE SAME OLD STORY—JEALOUSY, HATE, AND CRUELTY... WITH THE BLONDE PHANTOM'S VERY LIFE AT STAKE!

BLONDE PHANTOM

BLONDE PHANTOM, I LOVE YOU AND WANT TO MARRY YOU! WILL YOU BE MY WIFE?

YES, I WILL!

WHAT'S THIS? CAN WE *BELIEVE* OUR EYES AND EARS? IS THE BLONDE PHANTOM *REALLY* ABOUT TO BE MARRIED? AND WHO COULD EVER HAVE SUSPECTED THAT SHE WOULD MARRY *SUCH* A MAN? SURELY, THERE MUST BE AN *AMAZING STORY* BEHIND THIS STARTLING SCENE! AND AN AMAZING STORY THERE IS, INDEED_ A STORY OF *MADNESS*, OF *THWARTED LOVE*, AND OF *TERROR!* A STORY OF THE *MOST HORRIBLE CRIME EVER PLANNED ON EARTH*... THE WIPING OUT OF EVERY MAN ALIVE! A STORY SO BREATH-TAKING THAT IT'LL MAKE YOUR PULSE BEAT FASTER AS YOU FOLLOW EVERY THRILLING SCENE OF...

"The LAST MAN!"

2379

EVER SINCE CHILDHOOD, IGNATIUS FOWLER WAS NOT LIKE OTHER CHILDREN...

OH BOY, THIS BOOK ABOUT NUCLEAR PHYSICS AND MOLECULAR CONSTRUCTION IS SURE EXCITING!

WHEN THE KIDS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYED BASEBALL...

SAY, WE'RE ONE MAN SHORT!

LET'S ASK IGNATIUS TO PLAY!

IGNATIUS STAYED HOME AND STUDIED...

NAW, IGNATIUS WOULDN'T PUT AWAY HIS BOOKS JUST TO PLAY BALL!

BOY, HE'S EITHER BATTY OR A GENIUS!

HOW CAN ANYONE PREFER **STUDYING** TO **BASEBALL?**

AND WHAT'S MORE, IGNATIUS *ENJOYED* IT!

NOW LET'S SEE! THE RADIOACTIVE FIELD ISNT **ALWAYS** PRIMARILY **RESPONSIVE** TO ELECTRONIC PRESSURE!

IGNATIUS, SOME OF YOUR CLASSMATES ARE GIVING A PLAY, AND THEY WANT TO KNOW IF **YOU** WANT TO ACT IN IT!

THE ANSWER WAS ALWAYS THE SAME...

IGNATIUS WOULDN'T TEAR HIMSELF FROM HIS STUDIES FOR *ANYTHING!*

MOTHER, **CAN'T** YOU SEE I'M **TOO** BUSY TO BE BOTHERED WITH SUCH **NONSENSE**, WHILE I'M DELVING INTO ATOMIC COMPOSITION?

AND WHILE HIS CLASSMATES WENT TO DANCES...

...AND ROMANCED...

IGNATIUS WENT HIS MERRY WAY ALONE!

HA, **AT LAST**—I'VE MERGED TWO COMPOUNDS SUCCESSFULLY!

HE GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE AT THE AGE OF 16!

AND, I AM **PROUD** TO AWARD YOU THIS DIPLOMA, AND TO CONGRATULATE YOU FOR ATTAINING THE **HIGHEST** GRADES IN THE HISTORY OF THIS SCHOOL, IGNATIUS FOWLER!

A YEAR LATER, HE WAS HEAD OF THE LARGEST SCIENTIFIC ENGINEERING FIRM IN THE WORLD!

GOOD MORNING, MR. FOWLER, SIR!

HUMPH — GOOD MORNING!

FOWLER

AND THE YEARS THAT FOLLOWED WENT BY QUICKLY FOR IGNATIUS FOWLER, ACKNOWLEDGED TO BE THE **GREATEST SCIENTIFIC MIND** OF HIS TIME!

UNTIL ONE NIGHT...

LOOK UP THERE! THAT SCREWBALL IS STILL WORKING!

BOY, THERE MUST BE **MILLIONS** OF BUCKS WORTH OF **RADIUM** AND **URANIUM** IN THIS DUMP!

YEAH, DEY SAY HE **NEVER** LEAVES DIS PLACE! NOW **WHY** WOULD A GUY WID **ALL** HIS DOUGH STILL WOIK?

NO ADMITTANCE

SUDDENLY!

OUCH! I TRIPPED OVER SOMETHIN'!

AND IN FOWLER'S OFFICE...

WHAT IS THAT? GOOD HEAVENS! IT'S THE BURGLAR ALARM!

CLANG!!

CLANG!

HOLY SMOKE! LISTEN TO THAT ALARM! WHAT'LL WE DO?

FOLLOW ME, QUICK! WE'LL KIDNAP FOWLER AND HOLD HIM HOSTAGE BEFORE THE COPS COME!

CLANG!

CLANG!

BUT FATE WORKS IN STRANGE WAYS! FOR, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, THE ONE PERSON IN THE WORLD THE THUGS WOULD LEAST WANT TO SEE, PASSES THE FOUNDATION GATES!

THAT'S AN ALARM RINGING!

UPSTAIRS...

THAT'S IT! WE'RE IN!

WH-WHO-ARE-Y-YOU-WHAT DO YOU WANT?

JUST KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT, CHUM, AND YOU WON'T BE HURT!

YOU'LL OPEN YOUR SAFE FOR US, IF YOU WANNA STAY HEALTHY, CHUM!

I-I CAN'T!

OH, YES, YOU CAN!

IT'S A GOOD THING I CAME BY JUST NOW!

ONCE THE SAFE IS OPEN, WE'LL HAVE ENOUGH RADIUM AND URANIUM TO MAKE US RICH FOR A LIFETIME!

BUT THE SAFE WON'T BE OPENED!

LOOK!

I DON'T LIKE POINTED GUNS! NOT WHEN THEY'RE POINTED AT ME!

THE BLONDE PHANTOM!

4

THE BLONDE PHANTOM! SHE'S — SHE'S BEAUTIFUL! UNBELIEVABLY BEAUTIFUL! I-I NEVER KNEW SUCH BEAUTIFUL CREATURES EXISTED!

SUDDENLY... UNEXPECTEDLY... STARTLINGLY... LIKE A BOLT FROM THE BLUE, IGNATIUS FOWLER FALLS MADLY IN LOVE!

LATER, AFTER THE POLICE MOVE IN...

COME ON, YOU! MOVE!

WELL, MR. FOWLER, THERE ARE TWO MORE FOOLS WHO'LL REALIZE THAT YOU CAN'T BEAT THE LAW!

YOU... YOU... YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL!

WELL, I... EH... THANK YOU VERY MUCH! I... AH... HAVE TO... AH... GO NOW! GOOD-BY!

WAIT! YOU MUSTN'T GO... YOU CAN'T GO... I... I LOVE YOU!

YOU... LOVE... ME?

YES! IT HAPPENED SUDDENLY! YOU'RE THE FIRST GIRL I'VE EVER FELT THIS WAY ABOUT! YOU MUST MARRY ME!

TEE HEE! EXCUSE ME FOR GIGGLING, MR. FOWLER, BUT YOU MUST REALIZE HOW RIDICULOUS THIS IS... YOU LOVE ME! OH, DEAR!

YOU'LL FEEL BETTER AFTER YOU'VE RECOVERED FROM THE SHOCK OF THOSE THIEVES! GOOD-BY, MR. FOWLER!

POOR MR. FOWLER! IT WAS CRUEL TO LAUGH AT HIM! BUT IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE HIM REALIZE HOW FOOLISH HE WAS! IMAGINE AN OLD MAN LIKE THAT THINKING HE'S IN LOVE WITH ME!

SHE LAUGHED AT ME— IGNATIUS FOWLER!

MAYBE I AM OLD... AND UGLY... BUT I CAN FEEL EMOTION... I CAN FEEL LOVE! MY BRAIN IS KEENER THAN THAT OF ANY MAN'S! MY POWER IS UNLIMITED! ALL THE SCIENCES ARE MINE!

SO LONG AS THERE ARE YOUNG, HANDSOME, SWASHBUCKLING MEN ON EARTH, THE BLONDE PHANTOM WILL LAUGH AT ME!

AND SO, THE MOST HORRIBLE IDEA EVER CONCEIVED IS BORN!

BUT, SUPPOSE ONE DAY THERE **WERE NO MEN!** SUPPOSE **I,** IGNATIUS FOWLER, WERE THE **ONLY MAN IN THE WORLD!**

A FEW WEEKS LATER, AT THE OFFICE OF MARK MASON, PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR...

HELLO, MARK! I WONDERED WHEN YOU'D RETURN!

HI, LOUISE! WELL, THAT GLITTERBILT DIAMOND CASE IS **FINALLY** SOLVED! NOW, MAYBE WE CAN TAKE IT EASY FOR AWHILE!

LET ME HELP YOU OFF WITH YOUR COAT!

THANKS, LOUISE! Y'KNOW, IT'S FUNNY I HAVEN'T SEEN THE BLONDE PHANTOM LATELY!

OH, MARK, DO YOU **ALWAYS** HAVE TO THINK OF THE **BLONDE PHANTOM** WHEN **I'M** WITH YOU? WON'T YOU **EVER SEE** HOW MUCH IN LOVE WITH YOU **LOUISE GRANT** IS?

SUDDENLY THE SHARP EYES OF THE BLONDE SECRETARY NOTICE SOMETHING!

MARK! WHAT'S THAT HAZE? IS IT SMOKE? MAYBE THE BUILDING IS ON **FIRE!**

DON'T BE SILLY, LOUISE! THIS IS A FIREPROOF BUILDING!.. IT'S JUST **MIST** DRIFTING IN!

GEE, I DUNNO WHY... BUT I'M AWFULLY TIRED!

HMM...IT WAS SUCH A CLEAR, BRIGHT DAY... WHERE DID THIS *MIST* COME FROM?

I'M TIRED... GOTTA REST... SO TIRED...

MARK! WHAT'S WRONG?

I'VE **GOT** TO GET A DOCTOR... IT LOOKS AS THOUGH HE'S HAD A STROKE!

BUT UPON REACHING A DOCTOR'S OFFICE, LOUISE FINDS...

I'M SORRY, MISS... THE DOCTOR'S JUST BEEN TAKEN ILL! SOME KIND OF A **STROKE**, I THINK!

DOCTOR SMITH

IN DESPERATION, LOUISE RUNS OUTSIDE!

WHAT AN AMAZING *COINCIDENCE!* BUT I'VE *GOT* TO FIND *SOME* DOCTOR!

WHATEVER IT IS, THE *BLONDE PHANTOM* CAN COPE WITH IT *BETTER* THAN LOUISE GRANT! NOW FOR THE POLICE STATION!

BUT, IN THE STREET, A SHOCKING SIGHT MEETS HER EYES!

GOOD HEAVENS! ALL THE MEN HAVE BEEN STRICKEN!

THE POLICE, TOO, ARE UNCONSCIOUS/ WHAT CAN HAVE HAPPENED?

AND OUTSIDE/

ATTENTION, WOMEN! I, IGNATIUS FOWLER, INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO BRING YOU A MESSAGE FROM THE ONLY MAN IN THE WORLD--MYSELF!

WHAT'S THAT?

SPEAKING INTO THE MOST POWERFUL MICROPHONE EVER BUILT, IGNATIUS FOWLER BROADCASTS HIS GREAT SCIENTIFIC TRIUMPH/

YOU HAVE NOTICED BY NOW THAT ALL MEN, ALL OVER THE WORLD, ARE UNCONSCIOUS/ I, IGNATIUS FOWLER, HAVE PUT THEM ALL TO SLEEP WITH MY GREATEST DISCOVERY, THE MIST OF SLEEP— AND ONLY I HAVE THE MEANS OF WAKING THEM UP/

BUT I SHALL WAKEN THE WORLD'S MEN IF IT PLEASES ME— AND WHEN IT PLEASES ME! REMEMBER, YOU WOMEN MUST SEE TO IT THAT NO HARM EVER COMES TO ME— FOR IF IT DOES, YOUR MEN WILL NEVER AWAKEN— ONLY I CAN AWAKEN THEM!

NOW, I WANT THE BLONDE PHANTOM BROUGHT TO MY OFFICE AT ONCE! OBEY ME, OR I WILL NEVER REVIVE YOUR MEN!

IGNATIUS FOWLER! THAT'S THE MAN WHOSE FACTORY I SAVED FROM THE ROBBERS! HE MUST HAVE GONE MAD!

THERE SHE IS! THERE'S THE BLONDE PHANTOM!

RADIO

IN A FEW SECONDS, THE BLONDE PHANTOM IS SURROUNDED BY A SCREAMING, PANICKY, MILLING MOB OF TERRIFIED WOMEN!

LET ME GO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

YOU HEARD IGNATIUS FOWLER! WE *MUST* OBEY HIS EVERY WISH, OR OUR MEN WILL *NEVER WAKE UP!*

WAIT! WE *MUSTN'T* PLAY INTO HIS HANDS! *STOP!* LET'S PLAN A WAY TO DEFEAT HIM! HE'S A *MADMAN!*

NO! IF WE DISOBEY HIM, MY HUSBAND WILL *DIE!*

M-HERE IS THE BLONDE PHANTOM AS YOU ORDERED, M-MR. FOWLER!

GOOD! NOW LEAVE US!

YES, *I* AM THE MAN YOU *LAUGHED AT* WHEN I ASKED YOU TO MARRY ME!

BUT I REALLY DIDN'T *MEAN* TO LAUGH *INSULTINGLY*, MR. FOWLER! IT'S JUST THAT...

SILENCE! NOW I WILL NOT *ASK* YOU TO MARRY ME— *NOW I ORDER YOU TO!*

AND IF I REFUSE?

YOU HAVE *NO* CHOICE! *IF YOU REFUSE — I* SHALL *REFUSE* TO AWAKEN THE MEN OF THE WORLD!

I-I-SEE...

THE **ONLY** MAN IN THE WORLD I LOVE IS MARK MASON! BUT **UNLESS** I MARRY IGNATIUS FOWLER, MARK MASON — AND EVERY OTHER MAN — WILL REMAIN **FOREVER** UNCONSCIOUS! AND IF I *DO* MARRY FOWLER, I WILL STILL HAVE *LOST MARK!*

BEFORE I GIVE YOU MY ANSWER, PROFESSOR FOWLER, *HOW* DID YOU PERFORM THIS MIRACLE? *HOW* DID YOU RENDER EVERY MAN IN THE WORLD UNCONSCIOUS?

CHILD'S PLAY, MY DEAR!

FOLLOW ME!

INSIDE OF THAT VAT IS MY *MIST OF SLEEP!* IT IS THE GAS I HAVE INVENTED WHICH WILL *ONLY AFFECT MEN!*

FOR DAYS, MY ROBOT-POWERED BALLOONS HAVE DRIFTED HIGH ABOVE THE SKIES OF **EVERY** CONTINENT ON EARTH — AND, AT THE RIGHT MOMENT, I PRESSED A BUTTON, **RELEASING** MY **GAS**— GAS WHICH COVERED THE **WORLD!**

AND IN THAT VAT OVER THERE IS A GAS WHICH WILL *REVIVE* THE WORLD'S MALES— *WHEN* I DECIDE TO USE IT! ONLY A **THIMBLEFUL** WOULD BE ENOUGH FOR THE ENTIRE EARTH—IT SPREADS LIKE LIGHTNING!

THAT GAS OVER THERE? HMM...AND THE ROBOT BALLOONS— WHERE ARE *THEY?*

RIGHT THERE— IN MY HANGAR— FOR WHEN I CHOOSE TO USE THEM!

HMMM... VERY INTERESTING!

AND NOW, MY BEAUTIFUL— *WAIT—STOP!*

THANKS FOR THE INFORMATION, IGNATIUS—I CAN **USE** IT!

NOW TO GET SOME OF **THIS** GAS! AH, THIS TEST TUBE'LL DO THE TRICK!

YOU TRICKED ME! I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS! I'LL DESTROY THE GAS! THEN I **WILL ALWAYS** BE THE **ONLY MAN** IN THE WORLD!

THE GAS IN THIS ROOM WILL DISSOLVE ***BEFORE*** IT HITS THE OUTSIDE AIR — THE TEMPERATURE IN HERE WILL MAKE IT **USELESS!** **HA HA!**

TOO BAD YOU LET ME GET ***THIS*** TEST-TUBE FILLED FIRST!

WAIT! COME BACK! DON'T GO **OUTSIDE** WITH THAT!

FOWLER PLAYS A TRUMP CARD! HE SHOUTS A COMMAND TO THE TERRIFIED WOMEN..

STOP HER! STOP HER! OR ELSE YOUR MEN DIE!

OH-OH!

GET HER! WE ***MUST*** STOP HER!

DON'T — ***DON'T*** TRY TO STOP ME — I'M TRYING TO **HELP** YOU!

ANOTHER FEW MOMENTS, AND I'LL BE SAFE!

STOP HER BEFORE FOWLER KILLS OUR MEN!

MADE IT!

BREAK DOWN THE DOOR, AND ***STOP*** HER! SHE'S GONE ***MAD!*** SHE'S TRYING TO DESTROY THE GAS WHICH WILL **REVIVE** YOUR MEN!

QUICKLY! ALL TOGETHER — BREAK IT DOWN! ***KILL THE BLONDE PHANTOM!***

I'VE **GOT** TO SEND THESE BALLOONS OFF **BEFORE** THEY BREAK DOWN THE DOOR/ THEY'LL **NEVER** BELIEVE ME — THEY'LL **DESTROY** THE BALLOONS IF FOWLER TELLS THEM TO/

THERE — THE BALLOONS ARE **FULL** OF GAS — NOW TO SEND THEM OFF/

OUTSIDE THE HANGAR, IGNATIUS FOWLER BEGINS TO GET HYSTERICAL AS HE SEES HIS MANIACAL PLAN GOING AWRY!

BREAK DOWN THAT DOOR! BREAK IT DOWN, OR YOUR MEN WILL PERISH!

W-WE CAN'T! IT'S MADE OF STEEL/ IT **WON'T** BUDGE!

HERE — USE ***THIS!*** IT'S THE MOST POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE I'VE EVER CONCOCTED! IT WILL DESTROY THE WHOLE HANGAR, AND **WHATEVER** IS INSIDE!

SUDDENLY, LIKE COMETS, THE ROCKET-PROPELLED BALLOONS ZOOM INTO THE SKIES!

SHE'S DONE IT! SHE'S RELEASED THE BALLOONS! THE MEN WILL BE SAVED/ THAT MEANS THAT I CAN ***NEVER*** HAVE THE ***BLONDE PHANTOM*** — BUT NEITHER SHALL ANYONE ELSE! IF ***I*** CAN'T HAVE HER, I'LL LET HER ***PERISH!***

INSIDE...

PHEW! IT'S OVER! IN A FEW SECONDS, THOSE BALLOONS WILL DROP THEIR GAS AND THE MEN WILL ***AWAKEN!***

BUT THE FEAR-CRAZED WOMEN, UNAWARE OF WHAT HAPPENED, CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO DESTROY THE BLONDE PHANTOM!

THAT'S IT—LIGHT THE FUSE HEH-HEH! THAT'S IT!

KNOWING IT MEANS HER DOOM, THE BLONDE PHANTOM STAYS IN THE HANGAR, HELD THERE BY A SENSE OF DUTY, AND A SACRED TRUST!

I CAN HEAR THEM OUTSIDE. THEY'RE GOING TO BLOW UP THE HANGAR! BUT I CAN'T OPEN THE DOOR! IF I DO, FOWLER MAY RACE IN TO THE CONTROLS AND TURN THE BALLOONS BACK!

BUT JUST THEN, A MIST DRIFTS DOWN AMONG THE CROWD!

ALL RIGHT, YOU FOOL—STAY THERE—STAY THERE AND DIE! NEVER AGAIN WILL YOU LAUGH AT IGNATIUS FOWLER!

AND, A FEW SECONDS LATER.

STOP! DESTROY THAT FUSE! HOLD FOWLER!

LOOK! THE MEN! THEY'VE RECOVERED!

IT TOOK ONLY A SECOND FOR THE GAS TO REVIVE US!

AND AFTER THE MEN BATTER DOWN THE DOOR...

BLONDE PHANTOM—YOU'VE SAVED THE ... OH, SHE'S FAINTED!

MARK, YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! OOOOHHH!

NEXT DAY...

WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE THE BLONDE PHANTOM DID IT AGAIN, LOUISE! Y'KNOW, I ALMOST CAN SYMPATHIZE WITH THAT GUY, FOWLER! THERE'S NO TELLIN' WHAT A GUY IN LOVE WILL DO!

OH, MARK—YOU'RE SO RIGHT!

EXTRA DAILY TELEGRAPH

FOWLER SENT TO ASYLUM

SPLASH!

THE END

SUB-MARINER

YOU *MUST* PROTECT ME! MY LIFE WOULDN'T BE WORTH A CENT IF *THE TATTLER* KNEW I WAS HERE!

"TERROR *of the* TATTLER!"

THE TATTLER'S NOTEBOOK

2466

IN THE OFFICE OF THE FAMED GOSSIP COLUMNIST, THE *TATTLER!*

I CAN'T RAISE THE MONEY YOU DEMAND! YOU *MUST* GIVE ME MORE TIME!

THE DEADLINE WAS TODAY AND YOU *DIDN'T* PAY ME THE 10 GRAND, MISS WARREN!

I'LL BE RUINED!

THAT'S *NONE* OF *MY* AFFAIR! YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT *BEFORE* YOU WROTE THOSE LETTERS! TOMORROW MORNING, THE WHOLE COUNTRY WILL KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU!

TOO BAD, MISS WARREN —BUT I'VE GOT TO PROVE TO MY...ER. OTHER CUSTOMERS THAT I MEAN BUSINESS!

TOMORROW? THERE'S ONE WAY OUT... ONLY ONE WAY TO ESCAPE!

SOME TIME LATER, AS SUB-MARINER AND NAMORA ARE CRUISING NEAR THE SHORE—

WHAT'S UP, NAMORA?

I THOUGHT I SAW SOMETHING ON THE BOTTOM!

I WAS RIGHT! IT'S THE BODY OF A WOMAN!

AND SOON...

IS THERE ANY HOPE, PRINCE NAMOR?

I'M AFRAID NOT, NAMORA— THERE'S NO SIGN OF BREATHING!

SHE'S DEAD! DID YOU FIND OUT ANYTHING ABOUT HER?

HER NAME'S GLORIA WARREN...AN ACTRESS! I FOUND THIS SUICIDE NOTE IN HER HANDBAG!

THE TATTLER, EH?

The Tattler would have told my secret tomorrow! This is the easiest way out for me!

THAT CHEAP GOSSIP COLUMNIST HAS MESSED UP PEOPLE'S LIVES ONCE TOO OFTEN! IN MY BOOK, HE'S PRACTICALLY GUILTY OF MURDER!

I AGREE! WE OUGHT TO HAVE A TALK WITH HIM!

AT THIS MOMENT, TWO MESSAGES FROM THE TATTLER ARRIVE—IN THE QUARTERS OF **ENOCH PICKETT**, WEALTHY INDUSTRIALIST—AND ***THE GORGON***, CRIME CHIEFTAIN... RESPECTIVELY!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, DAD? SOMETHING WRONG?

WHY, NO ELLEN! JUST A LITTLE MATTER OF **BUSINESS**! I'VE GOT TO HURRY TO THE OFFICE!

IT'S **FINALLY** HAPPENED! FOR YEARS I'VE MANAGED TO HIDE MY PAST FROM THE WORLD! NOW, THE TATTLER THREATENS TO BRING THE WHOLE **SORDID** STORY TO LIGHT... UNLESS I PAY HIM A ***FORTUNE*** IN BLACKMAIL!

AT THE CRIME HEADQUARTERS OF... ***THE GORGON!***

YOU SENT FOR ME, GORGON?

YEAH, I JUST GOT A LETTER FROM THE TATTLER! HE'S GOT THE INFO ON WHO'S THE **HEAD** OF THE RACKETEERING COMBINE IN THIS CITY!

THAT MEANS—**ME**! HE SAYS HE'LL PUBLISH THE DOPE IN HIS **COLUMN**, UNLESS I CUT **HIM** IN ON THE PROFITS!

TH' SAP! HE'S SIGNED HIS OWN **DEATH-WARRANT**!

MEANWHILE, IN THE TATTLER'S NEWSPAPER OFFICE...

WE HOLD ***YOU*** RESPONSIBLE FOR GLORIA WARREN'S **DEATH**! THIS IS A **WARNING**...FROM NOW ON, WE'LL KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON YOU!

THE CORONER'S VERDICT WAS **SUICIDE**, RIGHT? YOU CAN'T FRIGHTEN ME WITH **THREATS**!

SO LONG, CHUMPS! BE CAREFUL, OR I **MAY** FIND SOMETHING WORTH TATTLING ABOUT ***YOU!***

OUTSIDE..

THERE'S THE TATTLER, NOW!

WE'LL SHUT HIS MOUTH.. ***PERMANENTLY!***

LET HIM HAVE IT!

THEY'RE GOING TO KILL ME! SAVE ME!

SOMEONE'S SHOOTING AT THE TATTLER!

SUB-MARINER DASHES TOWARD THE RACING CAR, AND...

I DON'T BELIEVE IN MURDER... EVEN WHEN THE VICTIM IS A SCURVY DEVIL!

THIS IS AS FAR AS YOU GO, FELLOWS!

HELP!

MIND IF I JOIN IN, PRINCE NAMOR?

GOING UP!

OH-OH, SOMEONE'S TRYING TO CRAWL AWAY!

WELL, WELL! IF IT ISN'T THE BIG, BAD GORGON!

NOT MUCH FIGHT LEFT IN YOU, NOW!

IT'S ALL A MISTAKE! I DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT! I JUST WENT ALONG FOR THE RIDE!

WE'LL SEE WHAT A JUDGE AND JURY HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THAT!

YOU'LL BE SORRY! WHEN I'VE TATTLED ALL I KNOW, THEY'LL SEND YOU TO THE ELECTRIC CHAIR...MARK MY WORDS!

AND YOU MARK MY WORDS, TATTLER! YOUR HANDS AREN'T ANY TOO CLEAN, EITHER! IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT, I'LL SEE TO IT THAT YOU WIND UP LIKE THE GORGON!

HMM! HE REALLY MEANS IT! I'D BETTER GET THE GOODS ON HIM... QUICK!

LATER... IN 1926, YOU SERVED ONE YEAR IN ELVORD PRISON FOR THE CRIME OF FORGERY! YOU WERE USING ANOTHER NAME! IS THAT CORRECT?

YOU KNOW IT IS! WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME, TATTLER?

I'M AFRAID I MUST ASK YOU FOR A MUCH LARGER SUM THAN I INTENDED! I'VE MET WITH CERTAIN MISFORTUNES... SHALL WE SAY...UH... A HUNDRED THOUSAND?

YOU'RE MAD! I WON'T PAY IT!

YOU'LL PAY, BECAUSE YOU CAN'T LET YOUR DAUGHTER, ELLEN, KNOW THAT HER FATHER IS AN EX-CONVICT! YOU WON'T RUIN HER LIFE, PACKERT!

O-OH!

LATER...

SUB-MARINER! NAMORA... HOW GLAD I AM TO SEE YOU!

WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

AFTER A BRIEF EXPLANATION...

SO YOUR FATHER HAS AGREED TO PAY BLACKMAIL TO THE TATTLER? THIS IS THE BREAK WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

RIGHT! WE'LL CATCH HIM RED-HANDED!

OKAY, I GOT YOUR SIGNAL! DID YOU BRING THE CASH?

I-I THOUGHT THIS MEETING WAS TO BE PRIVATE! WHO ARE THESE MEN?

JUST A COUPLE OF FRIENDS! SOMETIMES MY, UH..CLIENTS.. TRY TO GET ROUGH, SO I BRING MY **OWN** PROTECTION!

HERE'S YOUR MONEY!

I SAW YOU TAKE THAT MONEY, TATTLER! **ANY** JURY IN THE WORLD WILL CONVICT YOU OF *BLACKMAIL!*

I'VE BEEN DOUBLE-CROSSED!

COME ON! IT'S **USELESS** TO RESIST!

LET GO OF *ME!*

AS THE TATTLER'S STOOGES ATTACK...SUB-MARINER SWINGS INTO ACTION AGAINST THEM!

TOUGH GUYS! LET'S TEACH THEM A LESSON, NAMORA!

NOW, AS I WAS SAYING...

KEEP AWAY! IF YOU TOUCH ME AGAIN, I'LL BE FORCED TO TELL ON *YOU!*

REMEMBER, WHEN YOU HAD A CERTAIN DAVID HARING ARRESTED? YOU SUSPECTED HIM OF BEING A **MEMBER** OF A **NOTORIOUS** SMUGGLER'S RING! BUT, HE WAS LATER PROVED TO BE AN *INNOCENT DUPE!*

I APOLOGIZED FOR *MY MISTAKE!*

BUT, DAVID HARING COMMITTED SUICIDE! THE SHAME PROVED **TOO MUCH** FOR HIM! *YOU* CAUSED HIS DEATH, SUB-MARINER!

NO!

YOU CAN'T LET HIM ESCAPE LIKE THIS! WE KNOW HE'S GUILTY.. IT'S YOUR *DUTY* TO HAVE HIM ARRESTED!

WHO AM *I* TO *ACCUSE* ANYONE? I'M WORSE THAN HE IS.. I'M A MURDERER!

A CEMETERY! IT'S THE PROPER SETTING FOR THE DEATH OF MY CAREER OF FIGHTING CRIME!

(GULP) HE REALLY MEANS IT!

SOMETIME LATER, IN ENOCH PACKERT'S HOME, NAMORA GOES TO WORK!

I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE TATTLER THIS MORNING! ELLEN CONVINCED ME I SHOULD CALL ON YOU!

THE TATTLER WANTS MORE MONEY... AS I EXPECTED!

BLACKMAILERS ALWAYS TRY TO "BLEED" THEIR VICTIMS! BUT, THE TATTLER WILL GET A SURPRISE...NOW, HERE'S MY PLAN...

THAT NIGHT, AT A PRE-ARRANGED MEETING PLACE...

WHAT'S THIS? NOTHING BUT A SCRAP OF PAPER.. JUST A NOTE!

Tit for Tat, Tattler! I happen to know that you're really Con-Man Chris wanted in seven States for swindling! What will you pay to keep that out of print?

A TRICK, EH? YOU WON'T LIVE TO TELL ANYONE ABOUT ME! GRAB HIM, BOYS!

WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?

GUESS YOUR BOSS DOESN'T LIKE TO READ GOSSIP ABOUT HIMSELF! ONLY IT ISN'T MERELY GOSSIP...I CHECKED THE FACTS...AND THEY'RE ALL TOO TRUE!

I CAN'T MISS AT THIS RANGE!

SUDDENLY...

YIIIIII !

YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO HANDY WITH A GUN, TATTLER!

I GOT THE MESSAGE YOU LEFT FOR ME, NAMORA! YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING INTO DANGER!

AS IT TURNED OUT, I WASN'T KIDDING, BUT I LEFT THE NOTE JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU'D FOLLOW ME HERE!

LATER!

I WANT YOU TO MEET DAVID HARING...AND HE'S VERY MUCH ALIVE!

I OWE EVERYTHING TO YOU, SUB-MARINER! YOUR PUBLIC APOLOGY FOR MY ARREST CLEARED MY NAME!

THEN--THEN IT WASN'T TRUE! I'M NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR AN INNOCENT MAN'S DEATH!

OF COURSE NOT! THE TATTLER WASN'T ABOVE INVENTING FACTS WHEN THEY SUITED HIS PURPOSE!

LATER, AS THE TATTLER'S FILES GO UP IN SMOKE...

THEY'RE BURNING THE RECORDS THE TATTLER KEPT OF OTHER PEOPLE'S MISTAKES!

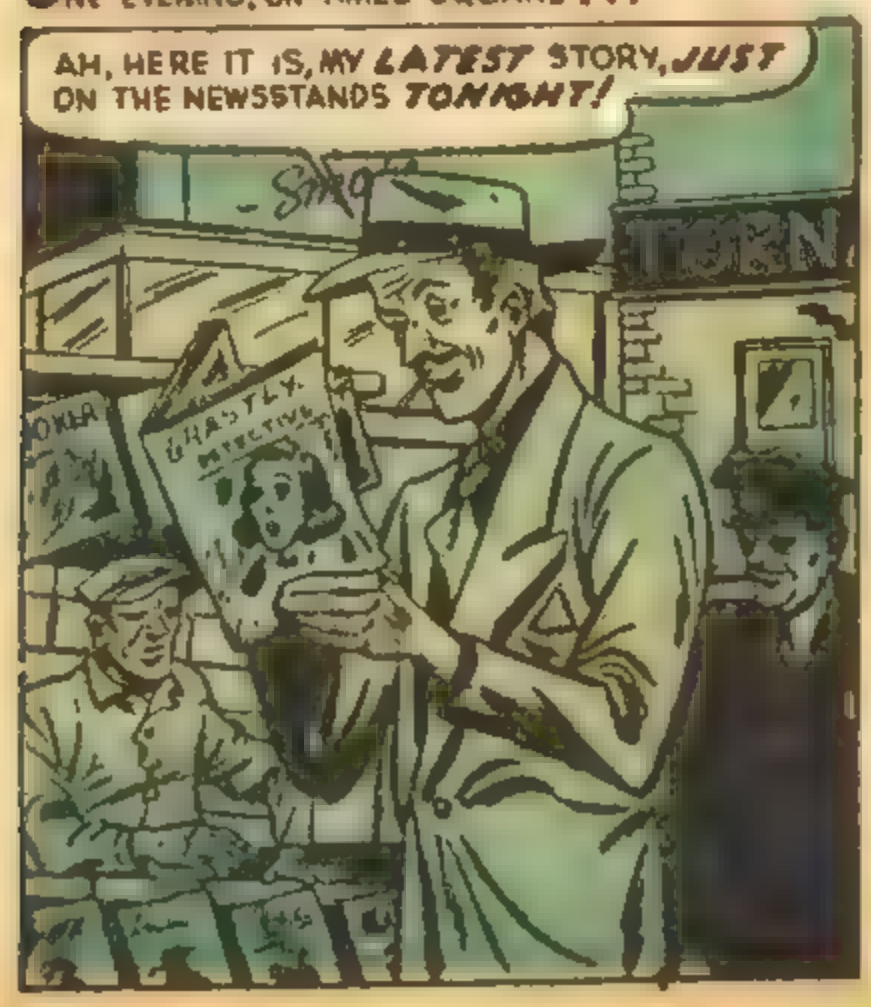
IT'S BETTER SO! THERE'RE INCIDENTS IN EVERYONE'S LIFE THAT ARE FAR BETTER FORGOTTEN!

THE END

BLONDE PHANTOM

"MURDER IN PRINT!"

ONE EVENING, ON TIMES SQUARE . . .



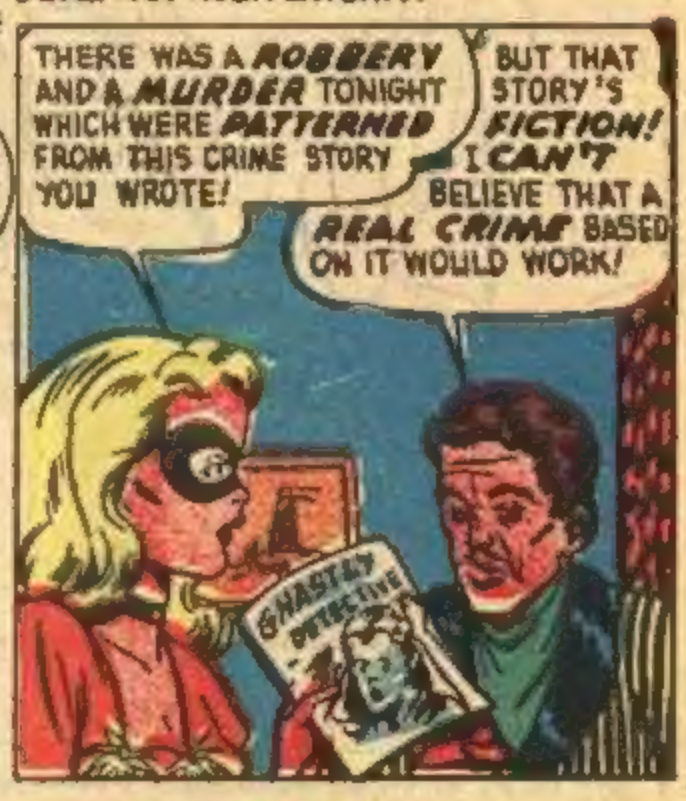
TWO HOURS LATER, AT A SMALL JEWELRY SHOP...

AT THAT MOMENT, PRIVATE DETECTIVE MARK MASON AND HIS SECRETARY, LOUISE GRANT, ARE WALKING HOME FROM THE OFFICE...

A FEW MINUTES LATER..

A QUICK CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND LOUISE GRANT BECOMES THE BLONDE PHANTOM!

HALF AN HOUR LATER...



SOON...

WELL, I'LL ASK DAD IF HE WANTS TO SEE YOU!

THANK YOU!

SHE'S CERTAINLY AN UNPLEASANT CHARACTER!

A MOMENT LATER...

HELP!

THAT'S MISS RUDOLPH!

THIS IS WHERE YOU MADE YOUR MISTAKE, MY FRIEND!

BLONDE PHANTOM!

YOU'LL NEVER STOP ME!

OHN!

OH, MY HEAD!

HE CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD!

ANOTHER MAGAZINE! THIS CASE IS BEGINNING TO GET VERY INTERESTING!

MARK, COME OVER TO THE GRAHAM RUDOLPH PLACE IMMEDIATELY!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT NOW, MY DEAR?

YES, FATHER!

MARK MASON WILL BE HERE IN A FEW MINUTES TO TAKE OVER! IF *ANYONE* CAN SOLVE THIS CASE, *HE'LL DO IT!* IN THE MEANTIME, I'M GOING TO READ AN *INTERESTING MAGAZINE!*

DET

HALF AN HOUR LATER...

KATHERINE'S RESTING IN HER ROOM! SHE'LL BE BETTER OFF *THERE!*

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! THIS CRIME WAS ALSO *PATTERNED* AFTER A *STORY*, AND THAT KILLER WILL BE *BACK AGAIN!* I'M GOING IN TO SEE HER!

I THOUGHT *YOU'D* BE BACK!

YOU AGAIN!

I *NEVER* MAKE THE *SAME* MISTAKE *TWICE!*

OWW!

HERE'S YOUR *KILLER!* A *MAD AUTHOR*— WHO USED HIS *OWN PLOTS* FOR *ACTUAL* CRIME!

IT'S GORDON!

AFTER THE POLICE TAKE GORDON HENDERSON AWAY.

GORDON WAS A COMPLETE *SPLIT PERSONALITY!* IN HIS *SANE* MOMENTS, HE *WROTE* THE STORIES, AND *LATER CARRIED THEM OUT!* PROBABLY *SOMETHING* LIKE YOUR *REFUSING HIS LOVE* WAS ENOUGH TO *DEMENT* AN ALREADY *WEAK* MIND!

I NEVER *DREAMED* GORDON WANTED TO *KILL ME!*

4

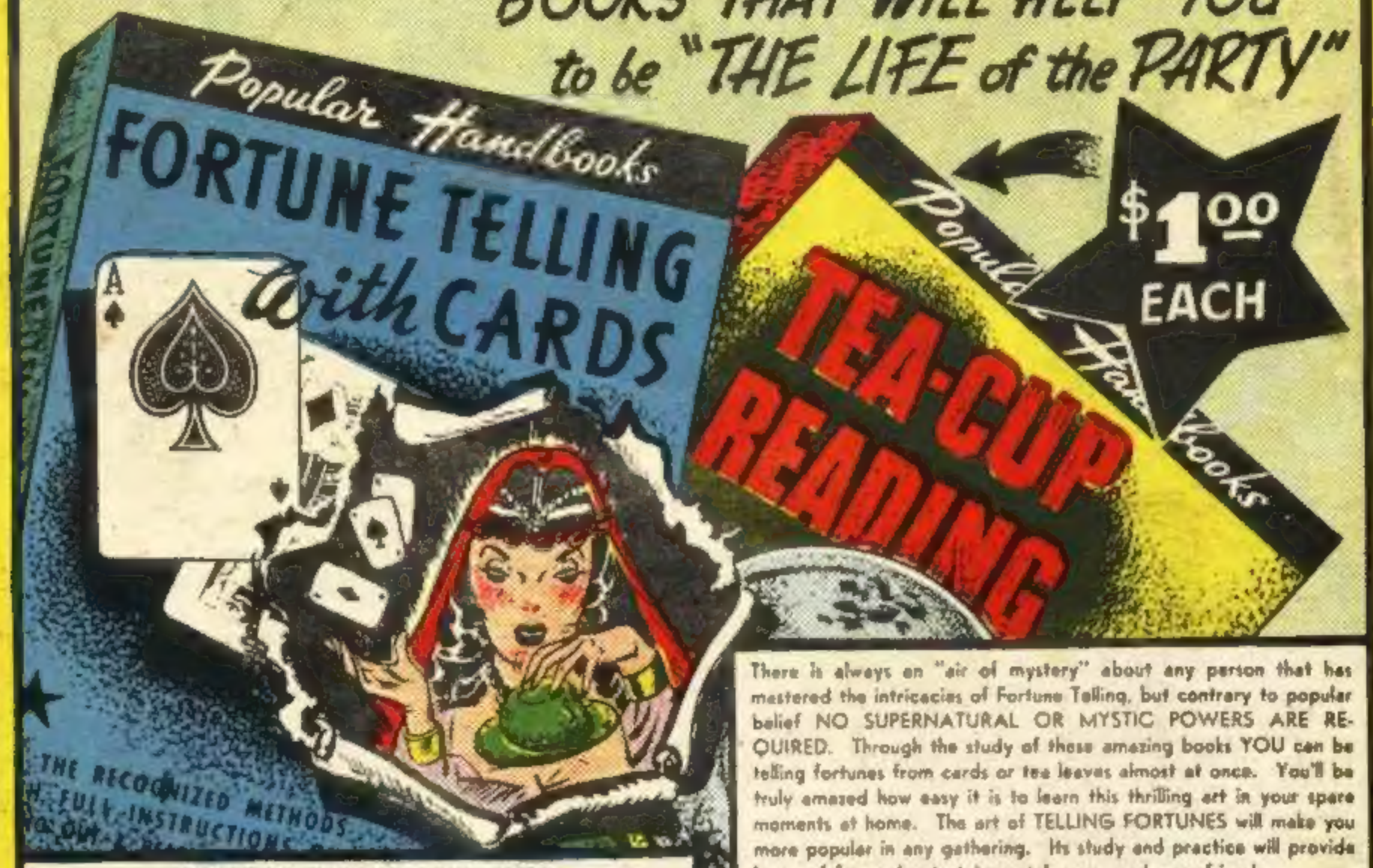
THE NEXT MORNING, IN MARK'S OFFICE...

YOU *SHOULDN'T* HAVE LEFT ME LAST NIGHT, LOUISE! YOU *MISSED ANOTHER* PERFORMANCE BY THE *BLONDE PHANTOM!*

TOO BAD! I ALWAYS SEEM TO *MISS HER!*

THE END

BOOKS THAT WILL HELP YOU to be "THE LIFE of the PARTY"



There is always an "air of mystery" about any person that has mastered the intricacies of Fortune Telling, but contrary to popular belief NO SUPERNATURAL OR MYSTIC POWERS ARE REQUIRED. Through the study of these amazing books YOU can be telling fortunes from cards or tea leaves almost at once. You'll be truly amazed how easy it is to learn this thrilling art in your spare moments at home. The art of TELLING FORTUNES will make you more popular in any gathering. Its study and practice will provide hours of fun and entertainment for you and your friends.

HOW TO TELL FORTUNES BY CARDS

is a complete guide to all the recognized methods of card reading.

HOW TO TELL FORTUNES BY TEA LEAVES

A book compiled by professional tea cup readers. All YOU need to become an expert.

Either of these books can be yours for only $1.00 or $2.00 for both. Fill in the coupon and MAIL IT NOW.

ANY SOCIAL FUNCTION CAN BE MORE LIVELY WHEN YOU OWN A COPY OF

PARTY GAMES FOR ALL

How often after your guests have departed have you wondered why your party didn't seem to be a success? Certainly everyone assured you "We had a wonderful time". BUT DID THEY? The really successful host or hostess is one that can break down that inevitable reserve at the start of the party. Then keep things rolling merrily along until the last reluctant "good-night". THIS BOOK WILL HELP YOU DO JUST THAT. It offers hundreds of things to do. Social mixers, games and contests, stunts and tricks that will appeal to people of every age and temperament. Whether your party be for a child's birthday, for a daughter's debut, for entertaining intimate friends or comperative strangers, this book will be found rich in suggestions to make the affair a memorable success.

Performed at any social gathering, magic will quickly make you a much sought-after guest. Now you can learn sleight-of-hand simply and easily in your own home. This book, "AN INTRODUCTION TO MAGIC" fully explains many mysterious tricks with carefully prepared illustrations and explicit directions. The author, SHERMAN RIPLEY, is a frequent contributor to "Sphinx" the international magic magazine. He is recognized by his fellow magicians as a craftsman of unusual ability.

His book actually explains in clear, simple language how to perform some of his most sensational and baffling tricks. YOU can master them all with just a little time and practice. Not one of them requires elaborate equipment or unusual ability. Yet every one of them will amaze and delight your friends.

The study of MAGIC is truly a rewarding advocation. Fun to do and fun to watch. You learn to express yourself clearly and convincingly acquiring at the same time poise self-confidence, grace and assurence. All assets necessary for success in life. Many an easily performed trick explained in "AN INTRODUCTION TO MAGIC" is worth many times the cost of the entire book. Send for your copy TODAY. You'll be amazed how easy it is to learn the mysteries of magic.

MARVEL SALES CO. 60 JARVIS STREET. TORONTO, CANADA.

I am enclosing _____ in cash or money order. Please mail postpaid and in plain wrapper the books I have marked.

- ☐ AN INTRODUCTION TO MAGIC at $1.49.
- ☐ PARTY GAMES FOR ALL at $1.49.
- ☐ HOW TO TELL FORTUNES BY TEA LEAVES at $1.00.
- ☐ HOW TO TELL FORTUNES BY CARDS at $1.00.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PROV _____